

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 AID-20 PC-04

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R 301210 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7165

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS, PK

SUBJECT: SIND UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION DISTURBANCE RESULTS
IN TWO WEEK CLOSURE

BEGIN SUMMARY: BEFORE DURING AND AFTER SIND UNIVERSITY
CONVOCATION APRIL 28 AT NEW CAMPUS OF SIND UNIVERSITY
LOCATED IN JAMSHORO (ON OUTSKIRTS OF HYDERABAD, SIND)
SLOGANS OFFENSIVE TO PRINCIPAL GUESTS-- SIND GOVERNOR
BEGUM LIAQUAT ALI KHAN AND GOP MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS HAFEEZ PIRZADA-- WERE
SHOUTED BY SMALL GROUP OF STUDENTS. FOLLOWING PREMATURE
TERMINATION OF PROGRAM, PIRZADA WAS PUMMELED BY A STUDENT
WHO WAS ARRESTED ON THE SPOT. FOLLOWING DAY THREE
STUDENT LEADERS WERE ARRESTED. ON APRIL 30 SIND MINISTER
OF EDUCATION DUR MOHAMMAD USTO, PRO- CHANCELLOR OF
UNIVERSITY, ANNOUNCED CLOSURE OF UNIVERSITY FOR TWO WEEKS.
END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO PAKISTANI NATIONAL (DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN
CENTER, HYDERABAD) WHO ATTENDED APRIL 28 CONVOCATION,
ONLY 35-40 STUDENTS ACTUALLY INVOLVED IN SHOUTING SLOGANS
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SUCH AS " PIRZADA A TRAITOR TO SIND", " WE DON' T WANT

BIHARIS" AND " PROSTITUTE BEGUM LIAQUAT". SLOGANEERING STARTED BEFORE ARRIVAL OF GUESTS, RECOMMENCED AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL, WAS QUIETED BY SIND CHIEF MINISTER MUMTAZ ALI BHUTTO AND PROGRAM, INCLUDING ADDRESS BY BEGUM NUSRAT BHUTTO, WIFE OF PRESIDENT BHUTTO WENT ON. PUNCHING OF GOP MINISTER PIRZADA OCCURRED WHEN HE WAS ENTERING HIS CAR TO DEPART THE CAMPUS FOLLOWING TERMINATION OF THE PROGRAM AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. IN MELEE AROUND PIRZADA CAR, WHICH ACCOMPANIED BY POLICE FIRING IN AIR TO PREVENT GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM SEIZING THEIR ARRESTED COHORT, ONE POLICE CONSTABLE WAS SHOT. POLICE CONSTABLE DIED NEXT DAY IN HOSPITAL. THREE STUDENT LEADERS WERE ARRESTED APRIL 29, ONE OF THEM GENERAL- SECRETARY OF THE SIND UNIVERSITY STUDENT FEDERATION WHICH HAD ISSUED CALL FOR BOYCOTT OF CLASSES UNTIL THEIR COLLEAGUE, A " JEEAY SIND" (LONG LIVE SIND) MEMBER, ARRESTED AT TIME OF INCIDENT, IS RELEASED.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, CORROBATED BY AMERICAN CENTER DIRECTOR, INSTIGATORS OF DISORDERS WERE SUPPORTERS OF SINDHI NATIONALIST, G. M. SYED, FATHER PATRON OF THE " JEEAY SIND" MOVEMENT. FUROR CREATED SEEMS SOMEWHAT DISPORTIONATE FOR NUMBERS REPORTEDLY INVOLVED, BUT IT POSSIBLE THAT STUDENTS HAD TACIT AGREEMENT WITH SIND UNIVERSITY VICE- CHANCELLOR GHULAM MUSTAFA SHAH, THAT THEY WOULD DO NOTHING TO EMBARRASS UNIVERSITY AT CONVOCATION BUT WOULD BE ALLOWED TO DISPLAY BANNERS EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS. ON BASIS OF THIS UNDERSTANDING, UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES DID NOT CALL IN POLICE FOR CONVOCATION. (POLICE PRESENT AT TIME WERE NORMAL CONTINGENTS WHICH ACCOMPANY PROVINCIAL AND CENTRAL MINISTERS ON THEIR PUBLIC VISITS.) CENLER DIRECTOR REPORTS THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS THAT SINDHI STUDENTS VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED TO GRANT OF HONORARY MIDOCTOR OF LAW DEGREE TO PIRZADA AND HAD SAID THEY WOULD NOT ACCEPT THEIR DIPLOMAS FROM REFUGEE GOVERNOR BEGUN LIAQUAT ALI KHAN. V. C., AWARE OF THESE SENTIMENTS, HAD LEFT GOVERNOR OUT OF PLANNING FOR EVENT UNTIL SHE CALLED HIM PERSONALLY, CITED HER ROLE AS CHANCELLOR OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNIVERSITY AND SAID SHE WANTED TO BE INCLUDED AND QUESTIONED V. C. AS TO WHY GRANT OF HONORARY DEGREE TO MINISTER PIRZADA HAD NOT BEEN RAISED WITH HER. POSSIBLE THAT REFUGEE GROUP AT UNIVERSITY, AWARE OF WHAT WAS GOING ON, HAD GOTTEN TO GOVERNOR AND URGED SHE TAKE HAND.

3. COMMENT: THIS PERFORMANCE LIKELY LEAVE SOUR TASTE IN EVERYONE' S MOUTH BEFORE IT UNRAVELS ITSELF. THERE

ARE MANY MODERATE SINDHIS WHO DO NOT SUPPORT G. M.
SYED' S EXTREMISM AND CONSIDER THAT DISORDERS UNFAVORABLY
DETRACT FROM PRESTIGE OF THE UNIVERSITY. PIRZADA,
BHUTTO AND PPP, ALL SOMEWHAT DISMAYED THAT STUDENT
SUPPORT FOR REGIME LESS THAN WHAT THEY FEEL THEIR
DUE, UNLIKELY TAKE THIS LAYING DOWN AND TEMPTATION TO
RETALIATE WILL BE STRONG. WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING IF
V. C. GHULAM MUSTAFA SHAH WERE RUSTICATED IN WAKE OF
INCIDENT.
TIGER

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